

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An isolated mammalian cell ~~which is~~ loaded with a bacteria ~~for the prophylaxis or therapy of a disorder in a subject,~~ wherein the cell is autologous, allogeneic or xenogeneic with ~~the~~ a subject and is selected from the group consisting of macrophages, dendritic cells, granulocytes, lymphocytes, tumor cells and tissue cells, ~~and~~ ~~wherein~~ the bacteria harbors a recombinant DNA which codes for at least one protein, and the isolated mammalian cell is capable of the prophylaxis or therapy of neoplastic diseases in a subject.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, which is inactivated by irradiation or other methods.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bacteria are alive, nonvirulent, virulence-attenuated, or dead.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, M. bovis, M. bovis strain BCG, BCG substrains, M. avium, M. intracellulare, M. africanum, M. kansasii, M. marinum, M. ulcerans, M. avium subspecies paratuberculosis, Nocardia asteroides, other Nocardia species, Legionella pneumophila, other Legionella species, Salmonella typhi, S. typhimurium, other Salmonella species, Shigella species, Yersinia pestis, Pasteurella haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida, other Pasteurella species, Actinobacillus

pleuropneumoniae, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *L. ivanovii*, *Brucella abortus*, other *Brucella* species, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Chlamydia psittaci*, and *Coxiella burnetii*.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one protein encoded by the recombinant DNA is produced by the bacteria with the aid of suitable promoters, or the expression thereof is under the control of a eukaryotic promoter.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bacteria produces at least one protein encoded by the recombinant DNA that is localized intracellularly or that is secreted.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell as claimed in claim 1, wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of antigens of infectious agents, antigens specific for tumors, antibodies, epitope-binding fragments of antibodies, fusion proteins, enzymes, immunosuppressant cytokines, immunostimulating cytokines, growth factors, and inhibitory proteins.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method for the prophylaxis or therapy of neoplastic diseases, ~~immune diseases, autoimmune diseases, chronic inflammations and organ transplants~~, comprising:

administering an effective amount of a an isolated mammalian cell of claim 1 to a subject, wherein the bacteria produces at least one protein encoded by the recombinant DNA which protein blocks negative regulatory elements in a tumor tissue, and wherein the cell is autologous, allogeneic or xenogeneic with the subject.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the bacteria serve as a proinflammatory stimulant in a tumor tissue.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 9, wherein dendritic cells or macrophages are employed simultaneously as a carrier for the protein.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 9, wherein the protein is loaded *ex vivo* onto the dendritic cells or onto the macrophages.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the mammalian cell is fused to another cell which expresses a tissue antigen or a tumor antigen.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 14, wherein the fused cells are autologous tumor cells.

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 9, wherein the recombinant DNA comprises a heterologous with the subject nucleotide sequence for producing a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 17, wherein the heterologous with the subject nucleotide sequence codes for a defined protein, and wherein a pharmaceutical composition is intended for the prophylaxis or treatment of neoplastic diseases, ~~immune diseases, autoimmune diseases, chronic inflammations and organ transplants~~ which can be prevented and/or treated with the protein ~~active substance~~.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the infectious agent is a virus, a bacteria, a mycoplasma, or a parasite.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the enzyme is an enzyme for activating inactive precursors of a medicament.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 20, wherein the enzyme for activating inactive precursors of a medicament is a  $\beta$ -glucuronidase, a phosphatase, a hydrolase, or a lipase.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the immunosuppressant cytokine is IL-10.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the immunostimulating cytokine is IL-1, IL-2, IL-3, IL-6, a chemokine, or an interferon.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the growth factor is G-CSF, GM-CSF, M-CSF, FGF, VEGF, or EGF.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the inhibitory protein is specific for a cytokine, a chemokine, an interferon, or a growth factor.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 8, wherein the fusion protein comprises at least one epitope-binding fragment of an antibody directed against an antigen on a tumor cell, a lymphocyte, or an endothelial cell.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 26, wherein the lymphocyte is a T lymphocyte.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 26, wherein the endothelial cell is a tumor endothelial cell.

Claim 29 (New): The isolated mammalian cell of claim 1, wherein the neoplastic disease is cancer.

Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 9, wherein the neoplastic disease is cancer.

Claim 31 (New): A method of delivering an active protein, the method comprising:

administering an effective amount of an isolated mammalian cell of claim 1 to a subject, wherein the bacteria produces at least one protein encoded by the recombinant DNA which protein blocks negative regulatory elements in a tumor tissue, and wherein the cell is autologous, allogeneic or xenogeneic with the subject.

Claim 32 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the bacteria serve as a proinflammatory stimulant in a tumor tissue.

Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein dendritic cells or macrophages are employed simultaneously as a carrier for the protein.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the protein is loaded *ex vivo* onto the dendritic cells or onto the macrophages.

Claim 35 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the mammalian cell is fused to another cell which expresses a tissue antigen or a tumor antigen.

Claim 36 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the fused cells are autologous tumor cells.

Claim 37 (New): The method of claim 31, wherein the recombinant DNA comprises a heterologous with the subject nucleotide sequence for producing a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 38 (New): The method of claim 37, wherein the heterologous with the subject nucleotide sequence codes for a defined protein, and wherein a pharmaceutical composition is intended for the prophylaxis or treatment of neoplastic diseases.

Claim 39 (New): The method of claim 38, wherein the neoplastic disease is cancer.

Claim 40 (New): A method of delivering an active protein, the method comprising:  
administering an effective amount of an isolated mammalian cell of claim 29 to a subject, wherein the bacteria produces at least one protein encoded by the recombinant DNA which protein blocks negative regulatory elements in a tumor tissue, and wherein the cell is autologous, allogeneic or xenogeneic with the subject.